COMPLETE LISTING OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A process for ~~increasing the pelleting stability of~~ preparing a polymer-coated, granulated enzyme-containing pelletizable feed additive, which comprises

(1) processing a mixture comprising a support suitable for feedstuffs and at least one enzyme to form a crude granulate;

(2) coating the crude granulate with an organic polymer which is suitable for feedstuffs, by

(2a) spraying the crude granulate in a fluidized bed with a melt, a solution or dispersion of the organic polymer or carrying out in a fluidized bed a powder coating with the organic polymer; or

(2b) coating the crude granulate in a mixer with a melt, a solution or a dispersion of the organic polymer or carrying out a powder coating with the organic polymer ~~; and if necessary post-drying, cooling and/or freezing from coarse fractions the respective resultant polymer-coated granulate~~.

2. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 wherein a mixture comprising the support suitable for feedstuff and a solution of at least one enzyme is processed to form a crude granulate by extrusion, mixer-granulation, fluidized-bed granulation, disk agglomeration or compacting.

3. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 wherein the moist crude granulate is spheronized before carrying out the polymer coating.

4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 wherein the granulation and/or polymer coating is carried out continuously or batchwise.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 wherein the crude granulate is coated with an aqueous or nonaqueous solution or dispersion of the organic polymer.

7. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 6 wherein a from 10 to 50% strength by weight aqueous or nonaqueous solution of at least one polymer is used for the coating, which polymer is selected from the group consisting of

a) polyalkylene glycols ~~, in particular polyethylene glycols~~ having a number average molecular weight of from 400 to 15,000;

b) polyalkylene oxide polymers or copolymers having a number average molecular weight of from 4000 to 20,000; ~~in particular block copolymers of polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene;~~

c) polyvinylpyrrolidone having a number average molecular weight from 7000 to 1,000,000;

d) vinylpyrrolidone having a number average molecular weight of from 30,000 to 100,000;

e) polyvinyl alcohol having a number average molecular weight from ~~120,000~~ 20,000 to 100,000; and

f) hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose having a number average molecular weight from 6000 to 80,000.

8. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 6 wherein a from 10 to 40% strength by weight aqueous or nonaqueous dispersion or solution of at least one polymer is used for the coating, which polymer is selected from the group consisting of

a) alkyl (meth)acrylate polymers and copolymers having a number average molecular weight from 100,000 to 1,000,000; ~~in particular ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymers and methyl acrylate/ethyl acrylate polymers;~~ and

b) polyvinyl acetate having a number average molecular weight of from 250,000 to 700,000, ~~possibly~~ optionally stabilized with polyvinylpyrrolidone.

9. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 wherein a powder coating is carried out with a powder of a solid polymer which is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methyl celluloses having a number average molecular weight from 6000 to 80,000; mixed with a plasticizer.

10. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein a melt of at least one polymer is used for the coating, which polymer is selected from the group consisting of:

a) polyalkylene gylcols ~~, in particular polyethylene glycols,~~ having a number average molecular weight from 1000 to 15,000;

b) polyalkylene oxide polymers or copolymers having a number average molecular weight from 4000 to 20,000 ~~, in particular block copolymers of polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene~~.

11. (currently amended) ~~The use of~~ A method for preparing a pelletized feedstuff composition, which method comprises pelletizing a mixture of animal feed constituents and a granulated, polymer-coated feedstuff additive that comprises a solid granulated mixture of a support suitable for feedstuffs and at least one enzyme, coated with an organic polymer which is suitable for feedstuffs and selected from the group consisting of:

a) polyalkylene glycols ~~, in particular polyethylene glycols~~ having a number average molecular weight of from 400 to 15,000;

b) polyalkylene oxide polymers or copolymers having a number average molecular weight of from 4000 to 20,000; ~~in particular block copolymers of polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene;~~

c) polyvinylpyrrolidone having a number average molecular weight form 7000 to 1,000,000;

d) vinylpyrrolidone/vinylacetate copolymers having a number averge molecular weight from 30,000 to 100,000;

e) polyvinyl alcohol having a number average molecular weight from 20,000 to 100,000; and

f) hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose having a number average molecular weight from 6000 to 80,000

g) alkyl (meth)acrylate polymers and copolymers having a number average molecular weight from 100,000 to 1,000,000; ~~in particular ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymers and methyl acrylate/ethyl acrylate copolymers;~~ and

h) polyvinyl acetate having a number average molecular weight from 250,000 to 700,000, ~~possibly~~ optionally stabilized with polyvinylpyrrolidone ~~;~~

~~for preparing a pelletized feedstuff composition~~.

12. (currently amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ method of claim 11 wherein ~~it~~ the additive has a mean particle size of from 0.4 to 2 mm.

13. (currently amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ method of claim 11 wherein ~~it~~ the additive comprises at least one enzyme which is selected from the group consisting of oxidoreductases, transferases, lyases, isomerases, ligases, phosphatases and hydrolases.

14. (currently amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ method of claim 13 wherein the hydrolase is a non-starch-polysaccharide-cleaving enzyme.

15. (currently amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ method of claim 14 wherein the phosphatase is phytase.

16. (currently amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ method of claim 15 wherein ~~it~~ the additive comprises from ~~1xIO3 to 1xIos~~ $1x10^3$ to $1x10^5$ U of phytase per gram of total weight.

17. (currently amended) A pelleted feedstuff composition which ~~, in addition to customary constituents,~~ comprises at least one granulated, polymer-coated feed additive ~~as claimed in claim 11~~ as admixture, wherein said additive comprises a solid granulated mixture of a support suitable for feedstuffs and at least one enzyme, coated with an organic polymer which is suitable for feedstuffs and selected from the group consisting of:

a) polyalkylene glycols having a number average molecular weight of from 400 to 15,000;

b) polyalkylene oxide polymers or copolymers having a number average molecular weight of from 4000 to 20,000;

c) polyvinylpyrrolidone having a number average molecular weight form 7000 to 1,000,000;

d) vinylpyrrolidone/vinylacetate copolymers having a number averge molecular weight from 30,000 to 100,000;

e) polyvinyl alcohol having a number average molecular weight from 20,000 to 100,000; and

f) hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose having a number average molecular weight from 6000 to 80,000

g) alkyl (meth)acrylate polymers and copolymers having a number average molecular weight from 100,000 to 1,000,000; and

h) polyvinyl acetate having a number average molecular weight from 250,000 to 700,000, optionally stabilized with polyvinylpyrrolidone.

18. (canceled)

19. (new) The process of claim 11, wherein the organic polymer coating does not melt during pelletizing.

20. (new) The process of claim 1, wherein the organic polymer is filler-free.

21. (new) The process of claim 1, wherein the coating takes place at from about 35 to 50°C.